

Remarks

Claims 1-13 and 25-34 are pending. The Applicants have canceled withdrawn claims 14-24, preserving their right to pursue them in a divisional application.

The Applicants address the Examiner's remarks in the order he presented them.

The allowed claims

The Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 1, 3, 5-7, 10-11, 25-29, 31, and 33-34.

Claim objections

The Examiner objected to claims 2 and 9 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c), stating that the claims are of improper dependent form. The Applicants have canceled claim 2, amended claim 9, and added new claim 35. The Applicants respectfully submit that claims 9 and 35 fully comport with the requirements of § 1.75(c), and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection under that section.

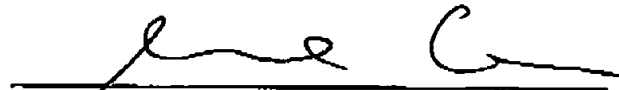
The rejection under § 112, second paragraph

The Examiner rejected claims 4, 8, 12-13, 30 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Applicants have amended claims 4, 8, and 30, and respectfully submit that claims 4, 8, 30 and dependent claims 12, 13, and 32 now fully comport with the requirements of § 112, second paragraph. The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection under that section.

Conclusion

The Applicants respectfully submit that the claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request early, favorable action on the application. Should the Examiner believe that an interview would advance the prosecution of this application, the Applicants invite him to contact the undersigned at 908.231.3444.

Respectfully submitted,



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